

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. [REDACTED] 25X1

TOPIC Military Information from Brandenburg

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT 12 and 16 July 1951 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 6 August 1951

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES [REDACTED] ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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1. In the afternoon of 12 July 1951, a column of trucks, carrying 200 troops, and 12 tractors towing 6 artillery pieces of a hitherto unobserved type, was seen leaving through the rear gate of the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne in Brandenburg. The column stopped at the Opel Plant, where minor repair work was apparently performed on two of the guns, and subsequently proceeded toward Plaue. The artillery pieces seemed to be larger than 150-mm and were transported in two loads, with the barrels resting on separate limbers. Both the gun mounts and the limbers carrying the barrels had caterpillar tracks. [REDACTED]

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2. On the morning of 13 July, three artillery pieces, broken down in two loads and towed by six caterpillar tractors, were seen leaving the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne through the north gate. The gun barrels, which rested on two-axle limbers, were 152-mm or larger and from 3 1/4 to 4 meters long. The undercarriages of the gun mounts were from 5 to 6 meters long and covered with tarpaulins. \*

\* [REDACTED] Comment. Soviet Army artillery pieces which are transported on two loads for long hauls are the model 1935 152-mm gun, the model 1931 203-mm howitzer and the model 1939 280-mm howitzer. The two-axle limber with six twin wheels carrying the gun barrel, as described in paragraph 2, is standard equipment. The gun mounts have caterpillar tracks, but the special limbers for the gun barrels do not as is stated in paragraph 1. The calibers specified in the present report exclude the unusually heavy model 1935 280-mm howitzer, nor is the length of the gun barrel specified in paragraph 2 indicative of the model 1935 152-mm gun which is 7.600 meters. It is therefore believed that the artillery pieces described by the two sources were model 1931 203-mm howitzers.

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No Change In Class. ☐

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